

DATE MICROFILMED 1-27-58

CAMERA OPERATOR Joe Foss

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Founding Fathers of this nation held that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness;" and

WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln in his first Message to the Congress of the United States defined the high purposes of our people as "a struggle for maintaining the world that form and substance of government whose leading object is to elevate the condition of men; to lift artificial weights from all shoulders; to clear the paths of laudable pursuit for all; to afford all an unfettered start and fair chance in the race of life;" and

WHEREAS, President Dwight D. Eisenhower has stated: "Today, when our National strength is being tested at every point, every American who helps, even in the smallest way, to make equality of opportunity a living fact, is helping America and is strengthening her against our enemies in the cause of freedom; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 1958, on the Ninety-Fifth Anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's memorable Gettysburg Address, the National Urban League will focus attention throughout these United States on positive efforts to insure fair and equal treatment to all citizens, regardless of race, color, religion, or national origin;

AND WHEREAS, it is most fitting to set aside a day to remind ourselves that the greatness of our country rests upon the principle of equal opportunity for all.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Joe Foss Governor of the State of South Dakota do hereby proclaim November 19, 1958 as

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DAY

and urge every citizen of the State of South Dakota to do everything in his power to advance this truly American cause of equal opportunity, so that all Americans will understand and appreciate the great advantages of our democratic way of life, and will also assume the responsibilities essential to the preservation of our freedom.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of South Dakota to be affixed this 27 day of Oct, 1958.

Joe Foss
Governor

ATTEST:

Clara Hull
Secretary of State
By Clara Hull, Clerk